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Applicant: Frank, Eyal
29 Hamered Street
Tel Aviv(IL)

Applicant: Reich, Yuval
Moshav Faran
Arava(IL)

Applicant: YISHUVEI POALEI AGUDAT ISRAEL
AGUDAH SHITUFT MERCAZIT LTD
64 Frishman Street
Tel Aviv(IL)

Inventor: Frank, Eyal
29 Hamered street
Tel Aviv(IL)
Inventor: Reich, Yuval
Moshav Faran
Arava(IL)
Inventor: Noy, Shraga
Kibbutz Hafetz Haim
Doar Hafetz Haim(IL)

Representative: Morton, Colin David et al
Keith W Nash & Co. Pearl Assurance House
90-92 Regent Street
Cambridge CB2 1DP(GB)

Portable apparatus for continuously monitoring peripheral blood flow.

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(7) Portable apparatus for monitoring peripheral blood flow comprising, according to one embodiment, apparatus for sensing infrared emissions from a bloodstream, including signal generating apparatus for generating a signal of an intensity corresponding to the intensity of an infrared emission sensed by the infrared sensing apparatus. According to an alternative embodiment, the apparatus for monitoring comprises apparatus for directing infrared radiation towards the bloodstream of a user; apparatus for receiving infrared radiation reflected from the bloodstream of the user; and apparatus associated with the apparatus for directing and the apparatus for receiving for measuring the difference between the

infrared radiation transmitted to the bloodstream and the infrared radiation reflected from the bloodstream, including apparatus for generating a signal of an intensity corresponding to the intensity of the difference. The apparatus for monitoring also comprises a power source, electronic control apparatus selectively connectable to the power source including apparatus for receiving a signal from the signal generating apparatus and alarm apparatus associated with the signal receiving apparatus for emitting an alarm output if no signal of at least a selected minimum intensity is received by the signal receiving apparatus from the signal generating apparatus within a selected period of time.

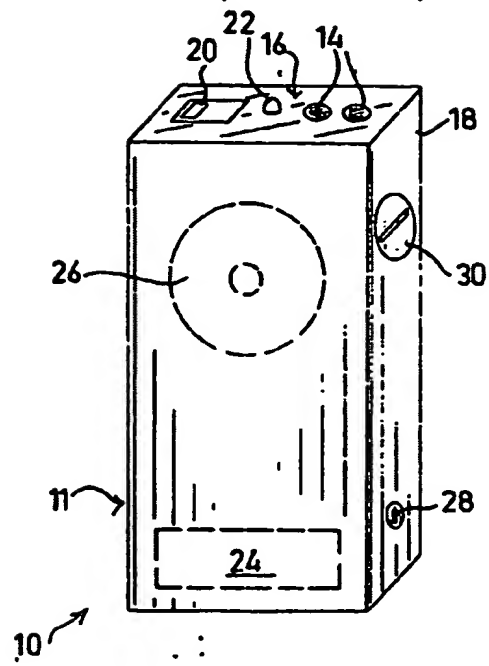


FIG 1